

AM 61-1618/a

MAR 1961

Mr. John J. Verstraete
Director of Communications
Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company
900 Bush Avenue
Saint Paul 6, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Verstraete:

Thank you very much for your letter of 28 February inviting me to speak before the 1961 Convention of the National Microfilm Association on 3 April.

I sincerely regret that I will be unable to accept your kind invitation. In view of my present official position, it is necessary for me to restrict my speaking engagements to the various government service schools except on a rare occasion when I make an outside talk. Unfortunately, I cannot make an additional commitment at this time. However, it was thoughtful of you to ask me to join you and I am sorry that my reply could not be more favorable.

With kindest regards,

Respectfully,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

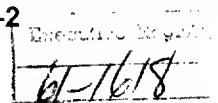
O/DCI [redacted] bak(1 Mar 61)

Distribution:

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(EXCERPT FROM [redacted] Verstraete)

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MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES • 900 BUSH AVENUE • SAINT PAUL 6, MINNESOTA • TELEPHONE PR. 6-8511

February 28, 1961

Mr. Allen Dulles, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

I would like to confirm our telephone conversation this morning with your office regarding our invitation to have you speak at a special preview dinner party in connection with the 1961 Convention of the National Microfilm Association.

The program is scheduled for the night of April 3 at the Union League Club in Chicago. A cocktail party is planned for 6:00 with dinner scheduled for 7:00. The National Microfilm Show opens the following morning at the Sherman Hotel, running through April 6.

In attendance at our preview dinner will be approximately 200 men of top administrative responsibilities from leading companies in the fields of aviation, electronics, communication, and other allied industries. As I indicated to your secretary, you could certainly feel free to make an "off-the-record" talk on the general subject of "Intelligence and Its Importance to National Security". Any reference to the use of microfilm in the general field of this business would be especially interesting to this audience.

If a press conference is of interest to you, we can arrange for one just prior to the meeting with all local press representatives.

I hope this background will be sufficient to encourage a favorable decision on this invitation. Please feel free to

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Mr. Allen Dulles, Director
Central Intelligence Agency

February 28, 1961
Page Two

call me if any additional data is needed. I can be reached in
St. Paul, Minnesota, at PROspect 6-8511.

Very truly yours,

MINNESOTA MINING & MFG. CO.



JOHN J. VERSTRAETE
Director of Communications

JJV:ss

21-1618

February 28, 1961

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Central Intelligence Agency
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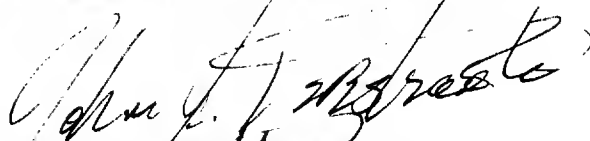
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Page Two

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St. Paul, Minnesota, at PROspect 6-8511.

Very truly yours,

MINNESOTA MINING & MFG. CO.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John J. Verstraete", is written over the typed name and title.

JOHN J. VERSTRAETE
Director of Communications

JJV:ss